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A PROCLAMATION.

Appointing a National Thanksgiving.



WILLIAM and MARY by the Grace of GOD, King and Queen of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, Defenders of the Faith; To

Machers of Privy Council,

Messengers at Arras, Our Sheriffs in that part, conjunctly and severally, specially constitute, Greeting: Forasmuch as, Great and Publick Blessings conferred upon Us and Our People, by the Almighty GOD, of his infinit Goodness, Do justly Call for Publick Acknowledgments, and Solemn Thanksgiving; So it is Our Duty, and the Duty of all Our good Subjects, at this time, by a Day solemnly set apart, to return Praise and Glory to His Blessed Name, who in answer to the fervent Prayers, humbly and devoutly offered up, and poured forth before him, At the Solemn National Fast, observed and kept through this Our Antient Kingdom, during Our last Campaign in Flanders; hath been pleased to preserve Our Person, from the many and great Dangers of the War, in Our late Expedition there, and to bring back Our Royal Person to Our Kingdoms; and at Home to Protect and Defend the Protestant Religion, and Our Government against the Designs and Attempts of their open and secret Enemies; And for which also, the Ministers mett together at Edinburgh, in the Commission of the General Assembly of the Kirk of this Our Antient Kingdom, Have made Address to the Lords of Our Privy Council, That a Solemn Day of Publick Thanksgiving may be set apart, to be Religiously observed throughout this Our Antient Kingdom. THEREFORE WE, with Advice of the Lords of Our Privy Council, Do Appoint and Command, That the Twenty two Day of November currant, for the Town and Shire of Edinburgh: And the Sixth Day of December next to come, for all the rest of this Our Antient Kingdom, be Religiously and Devoutly Observed, as a Solemn Day of Publick Thanksgiving, by all persons within this Kingdom, both in Churches and Meeting-Houses, for returning most Hearty and Humble Thanks and Acknowledgment to the Divine Goodness, for His Signal Blessings and Deliverances already bestowed upon Us and Our People, and to Implore the continuance thereof in the Mercy of Our GOD; and that a Spirit of Council and Wisdom may Assist Us in Our Consultations and Undertakings, at Home and Abroad in time coming. And to the effect Our Pleasure in the Premisses may be known; OUR WILL IS, and We Charge you strictly and Command, that incontinent these Our Letters seen, ye pass to the Mercat-Cross of Edinburgh, and remanent Mercat-Crosses of the whole Head Burghs of the several Shires within this Kingdom, and of the Stewartries of Kirkcudbright, Annandale, and Orkney, and there, in Our Name and Authority, make Publication hereof, that none may pretend Ignorance. And Ordains Our Solicitor to cause send Printed Copies hereof to the Sheriffs of the several Shires, and Stewarts of the Stewartriesforesaids, whom We Ordain to see the same Published, and Appoints them to send Doubles hereof to all the Ministers; both in Churches and Meeting-Houses, within their respective Jurisdictions, that upon the Lords Day immediately preceeding the saids Twenty two Day of November instant, and Sixth of December next, the same may be Intimat and Read in every Parish Church and Meeting-House, Certifying all such who shall contemn or neglect so Religious and important a Duty, as the Thanksgiving hereby appointed is, they shall be proceeded against, and punished as Contemners of Our Authority, and as highly Disaffected to Our Persons and Government. And Ordains these Presents to be Printed.

Given under Our Signs at Edinburgh, the fifteenth Day of November. And of Our Reign the sixth Year, 1694.



Per actum Dominorum Secreti Concilii.

GILB: ELIOT, Cls. Sti. Concilii.

GOD Save King William and Queen Mary.

Edinburgh, Printed by the Heirs and Successors of Andrew Anderson, Printer to Their most Excellent Majesties, Anno DOM. 1694.